

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): Device for sealingly linking two end pieces of a fluid line system, having a casing part into which the end pieces can be inserted, having an inner part that can be introduced into the casing part via a first introduction area, and having a sealing unit that is surrounded by the casing part and is set up for the mutual sealing of the end pieces, **characterized in that**

the inner part (13) is supported inside the casing part (1) in an axially displaceable manner and can be expelled via the first introduction area (2),

~~that~~ inside a second introduction area (3) of the casing part (1), the sealing unit (21) can be fixed, detachably from the inner part (13), with a retaining structure (19) configured on the inner part (13),

~~that~~ configured inside the casing part (1) between the first introduction area (2) and the second introduction area (3) is an abutment (12) with which the sealing unit (21), starting from an arrangement fixed with the inner part (13), comes into engagement by means of an axial movement of the inner part (13) from the second introduction area (3) towards the first introduction area (2), and

that the inner part (13) exhibits a contact surface (20) which, when an end piece (25) is introduced into the second introduction area (3), comes into engagement with this end piece (25) so that the inner part (13) is displaced towards the first introduction area (2), thus releasing the sealing unit (21), and can be removed from the casing part (1).

Claim 2 (Original): Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the sealing unit (21) exhibits at least one circular sealing ring (22, 23).

Claim 3 (Original): Device according to claim 2, characterized in that the inner part (13) in the area of the retaining structure (19) exhibits a cylindrical inner section (17), which can be directed through the or each sealing ring (22, 23) of the sealing unit (21) in order to support the sealing unit (21), and which lies loosely against the or each sealing ring (22, 23).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): Device according to claim 2, characterized in that the inner part (13) exhibits at least two outer clamps (18) that surround the or each sealing ring (22, 23) of the sealing unit (21) in order to fix the sealing unit (21).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): Device according to ~~claim 3~~ claim 4, characterized in that the retaining structure exhibits projections (19) that are formed on the inner section (17) and/or the outer clamps (18) of the inner part (13).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): Device according to ~~claim 3~~ claim 4 characterized in that the inner section (17) projects beyond the outer clamps (18).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): Device according to claim 1 characterized in that the abutment exhibits ring sections (12) that lie on a circular periphery with a diameter that corresponds to the diameter of the sealing ring (22) that is adjacent to the ring sections (12).

Claim 8 (Original): Device according to claim 7, characterized in that when the inner part (13) is arranged inside the casing part (1), the outer clamps (18) engage between recesses configured between the ring sections (12).

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): Device according to claim 1 characterized in that the inner part (13) exhibits a front plate (14) that is arranged inside the casing part (1) with the inner part (13) arrangement that fixes the sealing unit (21).

Claim 10 (Original): Device according to claim 9, characterized in that when the end piece (25) is pushed into the second introduction area (3), the front plate (14) projects beyond a face of the casing part (1) lying inside the first introduction area (2).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): Device according to claim 9, until the end piece (25) reaches its end position to link with the other end piece, the front plate (14) is arranged behind a face of the casing part (1) lying inside the first introduction area (2), and projects beyond the face when the end position is reached.